

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.-46. Cancelled.

47. (Amended) A computerized method comprising:

creating, by a channel server, a channel to distribute software comprising a hierarchical list of one or more channel clients and one or more tasks assigned to each one of the channel clients;

receiving, by each one of the channel clients from the channel server, installation files for the channel client component;

receiving, by each one of the channel clients from the channel server, installation files for a service;

installing, by each one of the channel clients, the installation files for the channel client component and the installation files for the service; and

requesting, by the channel client from the channel server, one or more tasks for deployment on the channel client.

48. (Original) The computerized method of claim 47, wherein the channel client performs the actions of receiving through a direct network connection with the channel server.

49. (Original) The computerized method of claim 47, wherein the channel client performs the actions of receiving through a subscription file.

50. (Original) The computerized method of claim 49, wherein the subscription file is received by e-mail.

51. (Original) The computerized method of claim 49, wherein the subscription file is received through a web page.

52. (Original) The computerized method of claim 49, wherein the subscription file is received through a login script.
53. (Original) The computerized method of claim 47, further comprising automatically contacting the channel server by the channel client to receive software.
54. (Original) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing the method of claim 47.
55. (Amended) An apparatus comprising:
  - a memory;
  - a central processing unit; and
  - computer executable instructions executed by the central processing unit from the memory to create a channel to distribute software comprising a list of tasks and deployment instructions for the tasks and to provide a first file to install a channel client component on the target computer and to provide a second file to install a service on the target computer wherein one or more of the first file and the second file are provided to the target computer over a network.
56. (Original) The apparatus of claim 55, wherein the second file allows the channel client component to be installed without a user logged on to the target computer.
57. (Original) The apparatus of claim 55, wherein second file allows one or more channel client components to be installed on a target computer regardless of the user's permissions.

58. (Amended) An apparatus comprising:  
a memory;  
a central processing unit; and  
computer executable instructions executed by the central processing unit from the memory to create a channel to distribute software comprising a list of tasks and deployment instructions for the tasks and to provide a first file to install a channel client component on the target computer and to provide a second file to install a service on the target computer wherein one or more of the first file and the second file are provided to the target computer through a subscription file.

59. (Original) The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the second file allows the channel client component to be installed without a user logged on to the target computer.

60. (Original) The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the second file allows one or more channel client components to be installed on a target computer regardless of the user's permissions.